

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of all claims pending, amended and cancelled is included as follows:

1. – 19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A tactical defense device, comprising:

a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;

a discharge orifice defined in the forward portion; and

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch

mechanism;-

~~The device in accordance with claim 1 including an end cap adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling. The device in accordance with claim 18 wherein the end cap defines defining an external thread.~~

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A tactical defense device, comprising:

a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;

a discharge orifice defined in the forward portion; and

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch

mechanism;-

~~The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the switch mechanism includes a plunger actuator and an actuator button that carries a safety slide button; and~~

~~The device in accordance with claim 21~~ wherein the switch mechanism further includes a guide pin and a coil compression spring.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A tactical defense device, comprising:
a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an
opposite second end, the tubular body adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;
a discharge orifice defined in the forward portion; and
a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end
of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch
mechanism;-

~~The device in accordance with claim 1~~ wherein the switch mechanism includes a plunger actuator and an actuator button that carries a safety slide button; and

~~The device in accordance with claim 23~~ wherein the cap portion of the safety slide button is formed with concentric rings on its surface.

25. (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A tactical defense device, comprising:
a dispenser having a tubular body having a first end defining a forward portion and an opposite second end, the dispenser adapted to receive a pressurized spray cartridge;

~~a nozzle plate having a discharge orifice defined in supported within~~ the forward position;

a tubular connector coupling having a first end adapted for connection to the second end of the dispenser and an opposite second end, the connector coupling housing a switch mechanism; and

a switch mechanism having a plunger actuator, a guide pin, a coil compression spring, and an actuator button carrying a safety slide button.

27. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the forward portion of the dispenser is enlarged.

28. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the first and second ends of the dispenser define annular threads.

29. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 including an annular retainer adapted for connection to the first end of the dispenser.

30. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 29 wherein the annular retainer includes an interior thread.

31. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the dispenser includes a slidingly insertable sleeve for holding a pressurized spray cartridge.

32. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the dispenser has an annular cover sleeve formed thereon.

33. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 32 wherein the annular cover sleeve is formed of a material suitable to enhance gripping of the dispenser, such as foam.

34. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the discharge orifice is formed in ~~a~~ of the nozzle plate and is in axial alignment with a discharge nozzle of an inserted pressurized spray cartridge.

35. (cancelled)

36. (cancelled)

37. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim ~~26~~34 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is made of a non-reflective material.

38. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 37 wherein the outer planar exposed surface of the nozzle plate is a dark, buff color.

39. (cancelled)

40. (cancelled)

41. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 including a plurality of interchangeable nozzle plates having different outer planar exposed surfaces.

42. (currently amended) The device in accordance with claim ~~26~~41 wherein an external seal member is associated with the nozzle plate.

43. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 including an end cap adapted for connection to the second end of the connector coupling.

44. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 43 wherein the end cap and the dispenser are in substantially axial alignment.

45. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 43 wherein the end cap defines an external thread.

46. – 47. (cancelled)

48. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 26 wherein the safety slide button is moved axially from a safety position to an armed position and is then depressed downwardly to activate the spray cartridge.

49. (previously presented) The device in accordance with claim 24 wherein the concentric rings are raised and have a step-like contour to facilitate a positive gripping action by a user.